

REMARKS

Claims 4-8, 11-17, 20-24 and 27-59 are present in the application. Reconsideration in view of the following arguments is kindly requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 4, 5, 11-14, 17, 20, 21, 27-29, 31-41, 43-46, 48, 49, 51, 53 and 54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Larijani et al. (USP 6,603,746). Although Applicants do not admit that Larijani et al. is relevant to any of the rejected claims, Applicants attach a Rule 1.131 Declaration and Exhibit A to antedate Larijani et al., thereby removing Larijani et al. as prior art, in an effort to expedite prosecution of the present application. Accordingly, as indication that each of the pending claims (4-8, 11-17, 20-24 and 27-59) are allowable is kindly requested.

Claims 42, 47, 50, 52 and 55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Larijani et al. in view of well known prior art. In light of Applicants' Declaration, Larijani is removed as prior art, and therefore the rejection is now moot. Similarly, with regard to claims 6-8 and 22-24, and claims 15 and 30, rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Larijani et al. in view of one or more of Chheda et al. (USP 6,131,738) or Padovani (USP 6,192,249), these rejections are also moot in view of Larijani et al. being removed as prior art. Accordingly, withdrawal of each of these rejections and allowance of each of the pending claims is kindly requested.

CONCLUSION

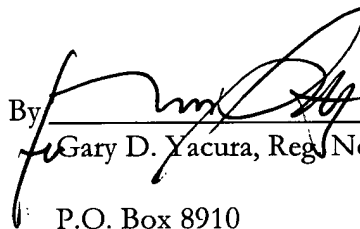
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Matthew J. Lattig at the telephone number of the undersigned below for the purpose of a telephonic interview.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicants hereby petition for a two (2) month extension of time for filing a reply to the outstanding Office Action and submit the required \$420.00 extension fee herewith.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By  45,274
Gary D. Yacura, Reg. No. 35,416

P.O. Box 8910
Reston, Virginia 20195
(703) 668-8000

GDY/MJL:js

Attachments: Rule 1.131 Declaration with Exhibit A